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BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the

URBAN DISTRICT OF BRIERFIELD.

For the Year ended December 31st, 1941.

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Medical Officer of Health:

DR. A. BARLOW, M.B., CH.B.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
BRIERFIELD.

APRIL, 1942.

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS,
BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 2314, an Interim Report only, as in the two preceding years, is presented for the Year 1941. It includes only essential or urgent matters, which have affected Public Health during the year. All records and statistics are being preserved so that after the War a full Report may be made.

I have pleasure, therefore, in submitting for your consideration the following interim report on the Health, Sanitary conditions and Public Health administration in the Urban District of Brierfield for the year ended 31st, December, 1941.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1941, according to the Rate Books was 2,495, the Rateable Value being £43,482 and the sum represented by a penny rate - £181.

The Social conditions were good; the chief industry is cotton weaving, though a large number of people are working on munitions outside the area, and there was little unemployment in the District during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS. 86 Births belonging to the District occurred during 1941, as follows:-

	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
Live Births	44.	39.	83
Still Births.	1.	2.	3.
			<u>86.</u>

INFANT MORTALITY: 5 Children under 1 year of age died during the year as follows:-

<u>Cause of Death.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Age.</u>
Hydrocephalus & Meningocele	-	1	1 mnth.
Congenital Heart Disease.	1.	-	10 hrs.
Premature Birth.	1.	-	1 week.
Broncho Pneumonia.	1.	-	6 months.
Infantile Convulsion.	1.	-	12 hrs.

DEATHS: Comparative particulars with regard to deaths are given in the following Table. From these it will be seen that 28% of the ^{total} deaths belonging to Brierfield occurred outside the District.

	<u>1941.</u>	<u>1940.</u>	<u>1939.</u>	<u>1938.</u>
TOTAL DEATHS:	115.	103.	111.	79.
Male Deaths:	61.	53.	56.	43.
Female Deaths:	54.	50.	55.	36.
DEATHS OUTSIDE DISTRICT.	32.	35.	35.	26.

The following table gives the ages at which death occurred also the causes of all deaths belonging to Brierfield during the Year 1941:-

SUMMARY OF DEATHS.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 1 Year.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65.	Over 65.	TOTAL.
Accidental			1.	2.	1.	2.	6.
Hyperpiesis				1.	1.		2.
Morbus Cordis				1.			1.
Acute Bronchitis.				1.	3.		4.
Myocardial Degeneration.				2.	24.		26.
Arterio Sclerosis.				3.	10.		13.
Cerebral Haemorrhage.				4.	4.		8.
Senility.					5.		5.
Cancer.				7.	9.		16.
Diabetes Mellitus.					1.		1.
Chronic Myeloid Leukeamia.					1.		1.
Influenza				1.	2.		3.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.			1.		6.		7.
Rheumatic Carditis.			1.		2.		3.
Hydrocephalus & Meningocele.	1.						1.
Intestinal Obstruction.					1.		1.
Lues.				1.			1.
Congenital Heart Disease.	1.						1.
Premature Birth.	1.						1.
Enteritis Acuta.					1.		1.
Acute Cholecystitis.					2.		2.
Broncho Pneumonia.	1.		1.	1.			3.
Streptococcal Septicaemia.				1.			1.
Osteomyelitis.			1.				1.
Meningitis.				1.			1.
Infantile Convulsion.	1.						1.
Non. Pulmonary Tuberculosis.				1.			1.
Chronic Nephritis.					1.		1.
Landry's Spinal Paralysis.				1.			1.
Diphtheria.			1.				1.
<hr/>							
5. - 3. 5. 35. 67.							115.
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CLINICAL AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This Service is under the Direction and control of the District Council. There has been no changes in the times of opening and they have been well attended.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

WATER:

Brierfield is supplied with a constant supply of water from the mains of the Nelson Corporation, and there were no new sources of supply during the year.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL:

No extensions to sewers or sewage works were made during the year, and the existing services and arrangements have been efficiently maintained.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:

There are approximately 20 pail closets in the District at isolated cottages in Marsden Heights.

SCAVENGING: This is carried out by the Council's own workmen, with a

two-ton "Karrier" tipping waggon. Domestic refuse is collected weekly free of charge from private houses, shops and mills, and disposed of at the Council's District Works. This is now work of vital importance and the following amounts of materials have been salvaged:-

Paper..... 60 tons.
Metal..... 42 "
Bones..... 3 tons.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

Notices.

	Inspections.	Prelim.	Statutory.	Remedied.
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Nuisances

Inspections:	105.	23.		31.
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ERADICATION OF BED BUGS DURING 1921.

Houses found to be infested.....	6.
Houses Disinfested.....	6.

Disinfestation is by means of "Venflaine" and "Gescanone" poison gas, carried out by the Local Authority, at the expense of the owner or occupier.

HOUSING.

STATISTICS:

No houses have been erected during the year.

CONDITIONS:

Generally the houses are well built of stone, and are through houses and in good condition.

HOUSING SCHEMES:

Since the outbreak of war, no new houses have been erected. 92 houses have been completed or are in progress.

by the Contractor going into liquidation.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION
OF FOODS.

DAIRIES
COWSHEDS &
MILKSHOPS:

The milk ^{supply} is plentiful and its quality wholesome, and
it is distributed throughout the District directly,
chiefly by the farmers in the vicinity.

Retail Milk purveyors registered with the Council...65.

Producers of Milk registered with the Council..... 5.

Periodical. Inspections of places where food is pre-
pared have been made, and the premises generally have
been found in good order.

Periodically, bacteriological examinations of samples of
milk are made by the County Council.

MEAT.

All slaughtering has been transferred to the Central.

Abattoirs.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All cases of infectious diseases are visited upon
notification, and where patients are not transferred to
isolation hospital, they are isolated in one room of the
house. Disinfectants are kept at the Town Hall, and
supplies are given to necessitous cases. Diphtheria
Antitoxin and Tetanus Antitoxin are also issued free to
Medical Practitioners on application.

DIPHTHERIA: One case of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

DIPHTHERIA: The Scheme for the immunisation of children against
IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria has met with a better ^{response,} 469 children received
treatment during the year. 147 of these were children
under 5 years of age, the remaining 321 being children
attending school. I have continued to give talks on the
value of immunisation, and, posters, have been displayed
in the Town ship.

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The following tables give the total number of cases
of Infectious Diseases ^{which} have been notified and the ages
during 1941:-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR, 1941.

	Total Cases at all ages.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.													Total Deaths.	Total Cases removed to Hospital from the District.	Deaths in Hospital or persons belonging to the District.
		Under 1 Year.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and over.				
Scarlet Fever.	60			1.	1.	1.	29.	22.	1.	4.	1.					46	
Whooping Cough.	16.	1.	2.	2.	7.	5.	2.				1.						
Pneumonia.	9.				1.			1.	1.		1.	4.	1.			1	
Measles.	186.	4.	16.	35.	19.	31.	65.	3.	5.	6.	1.	1.				8.	
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.	1.										1.						
Erysipelas.	2.						2.									1.	
Diphtheria.	1.						1.									1.	1.
	665																
275.		5.	16.	38.	23.	38.	99.	26.	7.	10.	4.	6.	1.		1.	57.	1.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1941.

Age periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1.								
1 - 5.				1.				
5.-10.								
10.-15.				1.				
15.-20.		1.		1.				
20.-25.	1.	1.			1.			
25.-35.		1.			1.	1.		
35.-45.	1.				1.			
45.-55.		3.	1.		1.			
55.-65.	1.			1.	3.		1.	
65 and over.			1.					
	3.	6.	2.	4.	7.	1.	1.	0.
	9.		6.		8.		1.	

LABORATORY WORK.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED DURING YEAR 1941.

Swabs for Diphtheria.....	Positive 1.	Negative: 10.
Faeces Pathogenic organisms.....	" 0.	" 2.
Milk samples for Haemolytic Streptococci.....	" 0.	" 14.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE.

Provision has been made for a certified Midwife to make the following attendances:-

MIDWIFERY CASES.....	22.
MATERNITY NURSING CASES.....	24.
MISCARRIAGES MIDWIFERY.....	NIL.
MISCARRIAGES MATERNITY NURSING.....	1.

Arrangements were made for Home Helps to attend in 10 Cases, Grants in aid of Hospital accommodation in 12 cases and Maternity outfits to be supplied in 2 cases.

BIRTHS: Number of Births notified during the year under the Notification of Births Act 1907, Section 203 of the Public Act, 1936, or Section 255 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, as adjusted by any transferred notifications:-

(a) LIVE BIRTHS.....	83.
(b) STILL BIRTHS.....	3.
(c) TOTAL BIRTHS.....	86.
(d) BY MIDWIVES.....	46.
(e) BY DOCTORS AND PARENTS.....	40.

HEALTH VISITING. Number of visits paid during the year by the Health Visitor:-

(1) To Expectant Mothers.	First Visits. 53.
	Total Visits. 239.
(11) To children under 1 year of age.	First Visits. 73.
	Total Visits. 583.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES: Total number of children who first attended at the Centre during the year and who, on the date of their first attendances were:-

(1) Under 1 year of age.....	63.
(11) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years.....	0.

ANTE-NATAL & POST NATAL SERVICES. Number of women who attended ante-natal clinics during the year..... 54.
Total Number of attendances..... 115.

Number of women who attended post-natal clinics during the year..... 2.
Total number of attendances..... 7.

Total number of expectant mothers ante-natally examined and of cases post-natally examined during the year, under arrangements made by the Council with private medical practitioners:-

(1) Ante-natal cases examined.....	14.
(11) Post-natal cases examined.....	1.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES. Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the centre during the year and who, at the end of the year, were:-

(1) Under 1 year of age.....	52.
(11) Over 1 year of age.....	126.

SUPPLY OF Dried Milk is supplied at the Centre for expectant and MILK AND FOOD: Nursing Mothers and children under 5 years of age, free,

or at less than cost price in necessitous cases. The total quantity of dried milk supplied during the year to above cases..... 2160 Dried pounds.

MATERNAL DEATHS: Number of women who died in, or in consequence of, child-birth during the year:-

{1} From sepsis..... None.
{11} From other causes..... One.

Fruit Juices and Cod Liver Oil have supplied at the Centre under the Ministry of Health's arrangements.

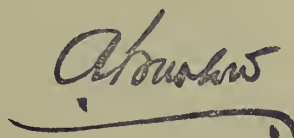
The annual Christmas Tree and Children's Treat was held in the Congregational School.

A body of lady helpers has again been of great assistance in the carrying on of the the work of the Centre, and their services are much appreciated.

During the earlier part of the year there was an Influenza epidemic, which was rather prolonged. Later there were . . . Epidemics of Scarlet Fever and Measles, which coincided with large epidemics all over the country. Fortunately the diseases were, on the whole, of a very mild type. On 3rd January, 1941, 487 unaccompanied children arrived in the District from Manchester. During the Year there have been several "trickle" evacuations, including 40 unaccompanied children from Salford.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

